REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of April 24, 2006 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is further amended to specify that the support frame mounts at least one controller for processing print data and controlling at least one of the printhead integrated circuits to print the processed print data. Support for this amendment can be found at page 18, line 25-page 19, line 10, page 27, lines 28-29 and page 28, line 14-page 29, line 9 of the present specification;

dependent claims 2, 5 and 7 are amended to conform with amended claim 1; and

dependent claims 3, 6 and 8-10 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application because the subject matter claimed in the amended claims was fully discussed by the Applicant in the Reply to the previous Office Action.

Regarding 35 USC 102(b) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 3 and 5-10 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Silverbrook, for at least the following reasons.

As discussed above, independent claim 1 has been further amended to clarify that the printhead assembly of the present invention has a controller which processes the print data to be printed by the printhead integrated circuits, not one which merely routes data to the printhead integrated circuits, as is the case with respect to the TAB films 22 and flexible PCB 54 disclosed by Silverbrook.

That is, as clearly disclosed at col. 4, lines 6-18, col. 6, lines 43-45, col. 7, lines 16-17 of Silverbrook, the "flexible PCB 54 is a single sided component that supplies the TAB films 22 of each printhead module 12 with data connections through contact pads", "the flex PCB 54 terminates in the data connector 66" and "power and data connections are made to the flexible PCB 54" (emphasis added).

Thus, it is clear to one of ordinary skill in the art from the disclosure of Silverbrook that the PCB 54 is merely a data and power connection for the printhead modules, similar to the flex PCB 80 of the present invention which connects power and data to the PCBs 52 of each printhead integrated circuit 51 (see page 8, lines 3-12 of the present specification), and not a controller which processes print data and routes this processed print data to printhead integrated circuits as required by amended independent claim 1.

Further, the drive transistor and data connections which drive the chip disclosed by Silverbrook, as cited by the Examiner in the Response to Arguments section of the current Office Action, are also clearly mere data connections, not a controller as claimed.

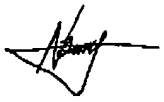
Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 3 and 5-10 dependent therefrom, is neither disclose nor suggested by Silverbrook.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicants:

KIA SILVERBROOK



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